

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 00413 271618Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ACDA-10 ISO-00 A-01 AID-05 CCO-00 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OPR-02 SCCT-01

SY-04 USSS-00 AEC-07 SAI-01 IO-10 /110 W

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R 271549Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5094

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 0413

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, MNUC, NL

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION AGAINST NUCLEAR-CAPABLE REPLACE-
MENT FOR F-104'S

1. THE PRESS REPORTS A FEW THOUSAND DEMONSTRATORS TURNED OUT IN AMSTERDAM JANUARY 25 FOR A RALLY AGAINST THE SELECTION OF A NUCLEAR-CAPABLE FIGHTER AIRCRAFT AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE F-104. BASICALLY A RALLY ORGANIZED AND ATTENDED BY THE FAR-LEFT, IT ATTRACTED RELATIVELY LITTLE ATTENTION.

2. DUTCH DEFMIN VREDELING, IN A STATEMENT RELEASED BEFORE THE RALLY, SAID THAT THE DEMONSTRATORS WERE SIX YEARS EARLY IN THEIR PROTEST. "EVERY MODERN AIRCRAFT WHICH
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PAGE 02 THE HA 00413 271618Z

HOLLAND IS ABLE TO BUY IS CAPABLE OF CARRYING NUCLEAR

WEAPONS. THE QUESTION WHETHER HOLLAND WILL CONVERT THIS CAPABILITY INTO AN ACCEPTED TASK WILL NOT BE DECIDED BEFORE THE STARFIGHTER IS READY FOR REPLACEMENT --WHICH WILL NOT BE UNTIL 1981." VREDELING WENT ON TO SAY THAT GOVERNMENT POLICY IS CLEARLY AIMED AT CURBING THE ROLE OF NUCLEAR ARMS, AND THAT HE HAD EXPLAINED TO PARLIAMENT A YEAR AGO THAT THE SUCCESSOR TO THE STARFIGHTER SHOULD BE SUITABLE FOR GROUND SUPPORT, HAVE A LIMITED CAPABILITY FOR FIGHTING OTHER AIRCRAFT, AND "BE CAPABLE OF DISCHARGING A LIMITED NUCLEAR ROLE, A MORE LIMITED ONE THAN THE STARFIGHTER."

3. MEANWHILE, ONE DUTCH NEWSPAPER CLAIMS THAT THE AIR FORCES OF THE FOUR CONSORTIUM COUNTRIES ARE READY TO RECOMMEND PURCHASE OF THE YF-16. ACCORDING TO THIS STORY, DASSAULT WILL BE GIVEN ONE LAST CHANCE TO SUBMIT NEW PRICE CALCULATIONS, BUT IF THE MIRAGE IS NOT SHOWN TO BE CHEAPER THAN THE YF-16, ALL FOUR AIR FORCES WILL SUPPORT THE YF-16.

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Message Attributes

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